

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 14742 261409Z
ACTION NODS-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
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S E C R E T MOSCOW 14742

NODIS

FOR SHULMAN FROM TOON

E.L. 11652: XGDS 2, 3
TAGS: UR, US
SUBJECT: PRISONER EXCHANGE

1. OLIN ROBISON HAS JUST INFORMED ME THAT ARBATOV IN A MEETING WITH HIM THIS MORNING PROPOSED AN EXCHANGE OF THE VINS FAMILY FOR THE WOODBRIDGE DUO. ARBATOV SAID THAT HE MUST HAVE A REPLY WITHIN A WEEK IF DEAL IS TO GO THROUGH, AND ROBISON TOLD HIM THAT HE WOULD DISCUSS THE PROPOSAL IN WASHINGTON WITHIN THE NEXT TWO DAYS. WHEN ROBISON INQUIRED AS TO POSSIBILITY INCLUDING OTHERS IN DEAL, ARBATOV SAID THAT IF ARRANGEMENT SUCCEEDED HE AND ROBISON COULD DISCUSS QUIETLY QUESTION OF MILD SENTENCE FOR SHCHARANSKY FOLLOWED BY EXPULSION. ROBISON ASKED ME FOR MY OPINION OF ARBATOV'S PROPOSAL. I TOLD HIM THAT HE SHOULD DISCUSS IT WITH YOU IN WASHINGTON, BUT MEANWHILE FOR HIS PRIVATE INFORMATION WITHOUT DIVULGING ANY DETAILS I COULD TELL HIM THAT AN ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENT INVOLVING THE WOODBRIDGE DUO IS NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION.

2. ROBISON ASKED THAT YOU LEAVE WORD FOR HIM AT HYATT REGENCY HOTEL, LOS ANGELES AS TO HOW HE CAN REACH YOU.

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HE WILL ARRIVE LOS ANGELES LATE TUESDAY AFTERNOON AND EXPECTS TO BE ABLE TO BE IN WASHINGTON WEDNESDAY MORNING. TOON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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